

# Action Research Plan

**Goal: To use blogging to increase communication skills of students of low socioeconomic status across different ethnic backgrounds, thus increase their scores on standardized writing tests.**

Action Steps(s):	Person(s) Responsible:	Timeline: Start/End	Needed Resources	Evaluation
1. Identify 6 to 10 student with low socioeconomic backgrounds to assist in research project.	Donna McManus Angelee Morales Brett Murrey	August 2012	School documentation for free or reduced lunches.	Use the information from the school to determine students who have a low SES from different cultural backgrounds.
2. Obtain students' authentic writing samples for baseline evaluation.	Brett Murrey Students	September 2012	Spreadsheet for tracking the student's communication effectiveness.	Ensure that enough data has been collected to judge the effectiveness of student communications.
3. Setup blogging account for students and begin having them blog twice a week. The students will blog once for what we have learned in class. The second post will be a student's choice.	Brett Murrey Students	September – December 2012	Edublogs.com Create log for tracking when students are accessing the blog site.	Monitoring postings from the students every week and provide written response to their responses.
4. Obtain students' authentic writing samples for mid-year evaluation.	Brett Murrey Students	January 2013	Spreadsheet for tracking the student's communication effectiveness.	Compare baseline data to mid-year data.

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5. Continue with students' blogging a minimum of twice a week. Encourage students to post comments to peers.	Brett Murrey Students	January - April 2013	Use log for tracking when students are accessing the blog site.	Students should become more comfortable with discussing topics through blogging.
6. Obtain students' authentic writing samples for end of the year evaluation.	Brett Murrey Students	April – May 2013	Spreadsheet for tracking the student's communication effectiveness.	Compare mid-year data to end of the year data.
7. Obtain data from action plan data and standardized writing test data to evaluate the effectiveness of students communication with the use of blogging.	Brett Murrey Students	April – May 2013	Spreadsheet for tracking the student's communication effectiveness and standardized writing test scores from the previous year and present year.	Compare data from similar students from the previous year's standardized writing test scores with current standardized writing test scores.
8. Compile all data into the action research plan and create an informal oral presentation of the results.	Brett Murrey Donna McManus Angelee Morales Cynthia Pense	May 2013	Baseline data Mid-year data End of year data STAAR Writing Scores	Using all data collected and analyze to determine if the use blogging to increase low SES student communication skills was successful.